

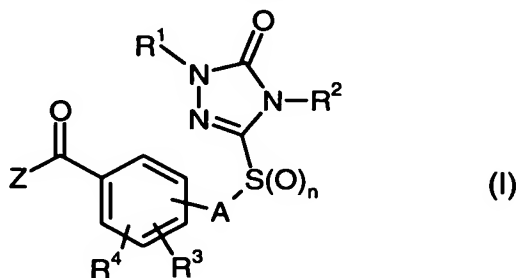
## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

### **Listing Of Claims:**

Claims 1-9. (Canceled)

Claim 10. (New): A substituted aryl ketone of the formula (I)



wherein

n represents the numbers 0, 1, or 2,

A represents a single bond or represents alkanediyl,

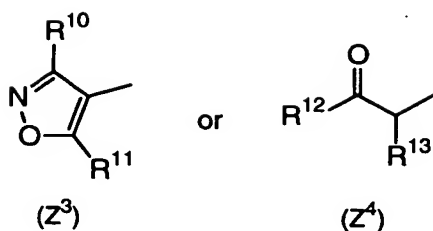
R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, or arylalkyl,

R<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or amino, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkenyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyl, alkynyloxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, arylamino, or arylalkyl,

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, or dialkylaminosulphonyl,

R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, or dialkylaminosulphonyl, and

Z represents one of the groups



wherein

$R^{10}$  represents hydrogen, cyano, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxy-carbonyl, or alkylthio,

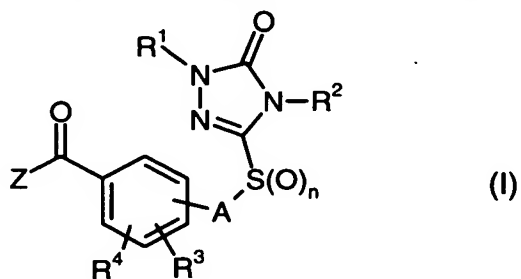
$R^{11}$  represents hydrogen or represents optionally substituted alkyl or cyclo-alkyl,

$R^{12}$  represents hydrogen or represents optionally substituted alkyl or cyclo-alkyl, and

$R^{13}$  represents hydrogen, cyano, carbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkyl-sulphinyl, or alkylsulphonyl,

including all possible tautomeric forms of the compounds of the formula (I) and the possible salts of the compounds of the formula (I).

Claim 11. (New): A substituted aryl ketone according to Claim 10 of the formula (I)



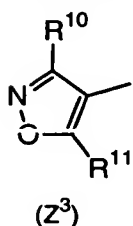
wherein

$n$  represents the numbers 0, 1, or 2,

$A$  represents a single bond or represents alkanediyl,

$R^1$  represents hydrogen or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, or arylalkyl,

- R<sup>2</sup>** represents hydrogen or amino, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkenyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyl, alkynyloxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, arylamino, or arylalkyl,
- R<sup>3</sup>** represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, or dialkylaminosulphonyl,
- R<sup>4</sup>** represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, or dialkylaminosulphonyl, and
- Z** represents



wherein

- R<sup>10</sup>** represents hydrogen, cyano, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, or alkylthio, and
- R<sup>11</sup>** represents hydrogen or represents optionally substituted alkyl or cycloalkyl,

including all possible tautomeric forms of the compounds of the formula (I) and the possible salts of the compounds of the formula (I).

**Claim 12. (New):** A substituted aryl ketone according to Claim 11 wherein

- A** represents a single bond or represents alkanediyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms,
- R<sup>1</sup>** represents hydrogen, represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, represents optionally cyano- or halogen-substituted alkenyl or alkynyl having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-substituted cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl group and optionally 1 to 4

- carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, or represents optionally nitro-, cyano-, halogen-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy-substituted aryl or arylalkyl having 6 or 10 carbon atoms in the aryl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety,
- R<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen, amino, represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted alkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino, or dialkylamino having 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl groups, represents optionally cyano- or halogen-substituted alkenyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyl, or alkynyloxy having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-substituted cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, or represents optionally nitro-, cyano-, halogen-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy-substituted aryl, arylamino, or arylalkyl having 6 or 10 carbon atoms in the aryl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety,
- R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, or dialkylaminosulphonyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl groups, and
- R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, or dialkylaminosulphonyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl groups.

Claim 13. (New): A substituted aryl ketone according to Claim 11 wherein

- R<sup>10</sup> represents hydrogen, cyano, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, or halogen, or represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, or alkylthio having 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl groups, and

R<sup>11</sup> represents hydrogen, represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-substituted alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or represents optionally cyano-, halogen-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-substituted cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms,

Claim 14. (New): A substituted aryl ketone according to Claim 11 wherein

A represents a single bond or represents alkanediyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy-, or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, or n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, or bromine-substituted propenyl, butenyl, propynyl, or butynyl, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methyl-, or ethyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, or cyclohexylmethyl, or represents optionally nitro-, cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, methyl-, ethyl-, n- or i-propyl-, n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl-, trifluoromethyl-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy-, n-, i-, s-, or t-butoxy-, difluoromethoxy-, or trifluoromethoxy-substituted phenyl, benzyl, or phenylethyl,

R<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or amino, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy-, or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, n-, i-, s-, or t-butoxy, methyl-amino, ethylamino, n- or i-propylamino, n-, i-, or s-butylamino, dimethylamino, or diethylamino, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, or bromine-substituted propenyl, butenyl, propenyloxy, butenyloxy, propynyl, butynyl, propynyloxy, or butynyloxy, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methyl-, or ethyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, or cyclohexylmethyl, or represents optionally nitro-, cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, methyl-, ethyl-, n- or i-propyl-, n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl-, trifluoromethyl-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy-, n-, i-, s-, or t-butoxy-, difluoromethoxy-, or trifluoromethoxy-substituted phenyl, phenylamino, benzyl, or phenylethyl,

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine, or represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy-, or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-,

s-, or t-butyl, acetyl, propionyl, n- or i-butyroyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, n-, i-, s-, or t-butoxy, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, n- or i-propoxycarbonyl, methylthio, ethylthio, n- or i-propylthio, n-, i-, s-, or t-butylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, n- or i-propylsulphinyl, methylsulphonyl, ethylsulphonyl, n- or i-propylsulphonyl, methylamino, ethylamino, n- or i-propylamino, n-, i-, s-, or t-butylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, dimethylaminosulphonyl, or diethylaminosulphonyl, and

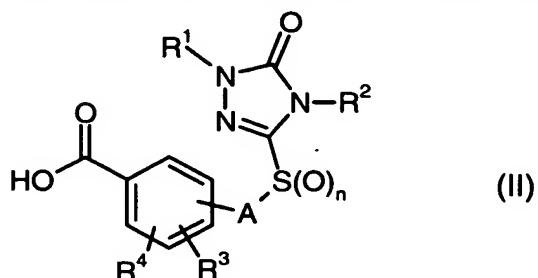
R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine, or represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy-, or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl, acetyl, propionyl, n- or i-butyroyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, n-, i-, s-, or t-butoxy, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, n- or i-propoxycarbonyl, methylthio, ethylthio, n- or i-propylthio, n-, i-, s-, or t-butylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, n- or i-propylsulphinyl, methylsulphonyl, ethylsulphonyl, n- or i-propylsulphonyl, methylamino, ethylamino, n- or i-propylamino, n-, i-, s-, or t-butylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, dimethylaminosulphonyl, or diethylaminosulphonyl.

Claim 15. (New): A substituted aryl ketone according to Claim 11 wherein

R<sup>10</sup> represents hydrogen, cyano, carbamoyl, thiocarbamoyl, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine, or represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, or n- or i-propoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl, acetyl, propionyl, n- or i-butyroyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, n-, i-, s-, or t-butoxy, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, n- or i-propoxycarbonyl, methylthio, ethylthio, n- or i-propylthio, or n-, i-, s-, or t-butylthio, and

R<sup>11</sup> represents hydrogen, represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, methoxy-, or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, or n-, i-, s-, or t-butyl, or represents optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, methyl-, or ethyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, or cyclohexyl.

Claim 16. (New): A process for preparing a compound according to Claim 10 comprising reacting a substituted benzoic acid of the formula (II)

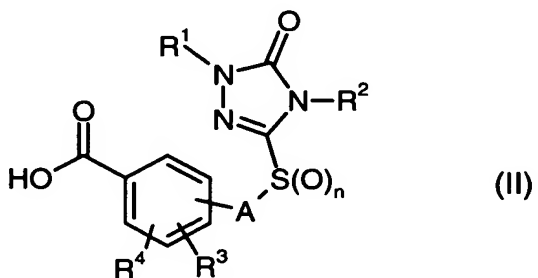


wherein n, A, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined in Claim 10,  
with a compound of the formula (III)



wherein Z is as defined in Claim 10.

Claim 17. (New): A process for preparing a compound according to Claim 11 comprising reacting a substituted benzoic acid of the formula (II)



wherein n, A, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined in Claim 11,  
with a compound of the formula (III)



wherein Z is as defined in Claim 11.

Claim 18. (New): A composition comprising at least one compound of Claim 10 and one or more extenders.

Claim 19. (New): A composition comprising at least one compound of Claim 11 and one or more extenders.

**Claim 20. (New): A method of controlling the growth of at least one plant comprising applying a composition comprising at least one substituted aryl ketone of Claim 10 to said plant.**

**Claim 21. (New): A method of controlling the growth of at least one plant comprising applying a composition comprising at least one substituted aryl ketone of Claim 11 to said plant.**